



**POTOMAC INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES
INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR TERRORISM STUDIES**

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Prof. Yonah Alexander, Director

Daily Terrorism Weather

13 June 2014

Middle East

[Iran, US Scramble to Respond As Prospect of Iraq Breakup Looms](#)

Author/Author/Source: Dan Murphy, Christian Science Monitor

“As the prospect of Iraq's breakup looms, regional and world powers are scrambling to respond...”

[Oil Markets Spike on Iraq Concerns](#)

Author/Source: BBC News

“The price of Brent crude spiked on Friday over concerns about the ongoing insurgency in Iraq...”

[Iraq Conflict: ISIS Militants Seize New Towns](#)

Author/Source: BBC News

“Islamist militants in Iraq have seized two new towns, widening their control after threatening to move on Baghdad...”

[Iraq Conflict: Shia Cleric Sistani Issues Call to Arms](#)

Author/Source: BBC News

“Iraq's most senior Shia cleric has issued a call to arms after Sunni-led insurgents seized more towns...”

[Israeli Forces Search for Three Missing Jewish Teens in West Bank](#)

Author/Source: Ori Lewis, Reuter

“Israeli forces are searching for three Jewish teenagers who went missing in the occupied West Bank late on Thursday, the military said on Friday...”

[U.S. Says Talks with Iran Focused On Nuclear Security, Not Iraq](#)

Author/Source: Lesley Wroughton and Susan Heavey, Reuters

“The United States is not in talks with Iran about the current insurgency facing Iraq and is instead focused on resolving issues over Iran's nuclear program, the State Department said on Friday...”

[Kurds Realize Dream as Baghdad Loses Grip on North Iraq](#)

Author/Source: Ned Parker, Reuters

“Poets wrote songs about it for generations. Guerrilla fighters holed up in the mountains trained for it for decades. But in the end, when a Kurdish army finally took control of Kirkuk, they realized the dream of their forefathers within hours, without having to fire a shot...”

[Syria Islamist Militants Pause and Reinforce From Iraq](#)

Author/Source: Oliver Holmes, Reuters

“The Syria branch of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) has put fighting on hold



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in Syria while it brings in weapons seized inside neighbouring Iraq, a monitoring group that tracks the violence said on Friday...”

Turkish Lenders Ziraat and Is Bank Shut Baghdad Branches

Author/Source: Ebru Tuncay, Reuters

“Ziraat Bank and Is Bank, Turkey's two biggest lenders, have temporarily ceased operations in Baghdad over security concerns after dozens of Turkish citizens were taken hostage by militants in the north, an executive said on Friday...”

Asia

Afghans Head to Polls Again In Final Test as Taliban Threats Loom

Author/Source: Jessica Donati and Praveen Menon, Reuters

“Afghans head to the polls on Saturday for a second round of voting to elect a successor to President Hamid Karzai in a decisive test of Afghanistan's ambitions to transfer power democratically for the first time in its tumultuous history...”

Pakistan Fighting Drives Families over Border into Afghanistan

Author/Source: Mirwais Harooni, Reuters

“Hundreds of Pakistani families have fled from a surge of fighting between Pakistani government forces and militants into neighboring Afghanistan, an Afghan government official said on Friday...”

Taliban Changing From Religious Group to Criminal Enterprise - U.N.

Author/Source: Louis Charbonneau, Reuters

“The Taliban's reliance on extortion and kidnappings, along with narcotics and illegal mining operations, is transforming it from a group driven by religious ideology into a criminal enterprise hungry for profit, U.N. sanctions monitors said in a new report...”

MH370 Families Receive \$50,000 Compensation

Author/Source: Al-Jazeera

“Families of seven passengers on the missing MH370 flight have received an initial compensation payment of \$50,000 from Malaysia Airlines, a Malaysian government official has said...”

Thai Army Vows Interim Government in Months

Author/Source: Al-Jazeera

“The leader of Thailand's military government has said that an interim government will be set up by September but warned that elections will only take place once the country is stable...”

Myanmar-Bangladesh to Tighten Border Security

Author/Source: Al-Jazeera

“Myanmar and Bangladeshi authorities have vowed to strengthen border security and combat ‘illegal armed groups and criminals’ following clashes on their shared frontier that Dhaka said left one of its soldiers dead...”



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[China Says Willing To Help Iraq in Any Way It Can](#)

Author/Source: Ben Blanchard, Reuters

“China said on Friday that it was watching security developments in Iraq closely after Islamist fighters captured two more towns in a sweep south, and offered the government in Baghdad whatever help it can give...”

Africa

[Egypt Asks YouTube to Remove Cairo Sexual Assault Video](#)

Author/Source: BBC News

“Egypt has asked YouTube to remove a video of a woman being sexually assaulted during a rally in Cairo's Tahrir Square supporting the country's newly elected president...”

[Somalia's Al-Shabab Militants Impose Dress Code](#)

Author/Source: BBC News

“Somalia's al-Shabab militants have rounded up around 100 women and ordered them to comply with a strict Islamic dress code or risk being whipped...”

[Many Dead in Fresh CAR Clashes](#)

Author/Source: Al-Jazeera

“Fighting between mainly Muslim ex-rebels and the largely Christian ‘anti-balaka’ militia has killed at least 22 people in eastern Central African Republic, security officials have said...”

[Dressed For Cycling, Egypt's Sisi Calls For Help on Fuel Subsidies](#)

Author/Source: Shadia Nasralla, Reuters

“Wearing sporting gear including cycling gloves, President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi asked Egyptians on Friday to cycle and walk more to help the cash-strapped government that spends tens of billions of dollars a year on fuel subsidies...”

[Egypt's Cabinet to Be Formed Author/Source: Sunday, Many Ministers to Stay: Sources](#)

Author/Source: Yasmine Saleh and Shadia Nasralla, Reuters

“Egypt is expected to unveil a new cabinet by Sunday, three officials said on Friday, with the finance minister and others likely to keep their posts following the election of President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi...”

[Tunisia to Hold Parliamentary Then Presidential Elections This Year](#)

Author/Source: Tarek Amara, Reuters

“Tunisia is set to hold separate parliamentary and presidential elections at the end of the year after political parties resolved a dispute over the election date on Friday, political sources told Reuters...”

[Tunisian Police Kill Two Islamist Militants near Algerian Border](#)

Author/Source: Tarek Amara, Reuters

“Tunisian police killed two Islamist militants during clashes near the Algerian border and seized weapons and bombs, the government said on Friday, two weeks after Islamists attacked a government minister's home in one of their boldest attacks...”



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[U.N. Chief Urges Libya to Hold June 25 Elections as Planned](#)

Author/Source: Louis Charbonneau and Ulf Laessing, Reuters

“U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Thursday urged Libya to stick to its plan to hold parliamentary elections on June 25 and defended the United Nations' goal of organizing a meeting to promote reconciliation among the North African country's competing factions...”

Europe

[Russia accused of sending tanks to Ukraine](#)

Author/Source: Al-Jazeera

“Ukraine has accused Russia of allowing three tanks and other military vehicles to cross the border into east Ukraine to help pro-Russian separatists there...”

[Ukrainian Troops Regain Port City of Mariupol](#)

Author/Source: Al-Jazeera

“Ukrainian forces have reclaimed the port city of Mariupol after heavy fighting with pro-Russian separatists...”

[NATO Says Russian Tanks in Ukraine Would Be Serious Escalation](#)

Author/Source: Adrian Croft, Reuters

“If reports that Russian tanks have entered eastern Ukraine are confirmed, it would mark a serious escalation of the crisis there, NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said on Friday...”

Latin American and the Caribbean

[Anger Boils Over at Brazil Protests](#)

Author/Source: Bill Hayton, BBC News

“The opening day of the World Cup in Brazil has been marred by scuffles between police and protesters, angry at the cost of hosting the tournament...”

[TalCual: Repression vs. Inflation](#)

Author/Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

“On Tuesday, a group comprised by 9 human rights NGOs released their own figures. Something that the central bank (BCV) has not done with data on inflation and scarcity for two months now...”

[Colombia's Santos Optimistic Ahead of Runoff](#)

Author/Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

“Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos said on Friday he feels good about his chances of winning a second term in this weekend's runoff election, acknowledging that his campaign has been buoyed by new-found support from across the political spectrum...”

[Opposition Wins Power in Antigua](#)

Author/Source: Latin American Herald Tribune



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“Gaston Browne was sworn-in Friday as prime minister of Antigua and Barbuda, marking the end of 10 years of rule by the United Progressive Party...”

[Guatemala Seizes 1.3 Tons of Cocaine](#)

Author/Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

“Authorities confiscated 1,224 kilos (2,696 lbs.) of cocaine that arrived in Guatemala aboard a ship from Ecuador, police said Friday...”

[Mayor-Elect Gunned Down in Ecuador](#)

Author/Source: Latin American Herald Tribune

“Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa condemned the murder of the mayor-elect of the coastal city of Muisne and asked his compatriots to prevent violence from taking over the country...”

US & Canada

[FBI Probes Somali-Americans Fighting in Syria](#)

Author/Source: Reuters via Al-Jazeera

“The FBI is investigating men of Somali background who have travelled from the United States to Syria to fight with rebel groups against President Bashar al-Assad...”

[OECD Sees US Growth Accelerating Through 2015](#)

Author/Source: Al-Jazeera

“The U.S. economic recovery should accelerate in the coming months as an energy boom, steadily falling unemployment and a rebound in investment and consumer confidence push growth to its fastest pace in a decade, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) said Friday...”

[US Says Sudan Increasing Attacks on Civilians](#)

Author/Source: Al-Jazeera

“The US ambassador to the UN has accused Sudan of intensifying attacks on civilians and of deliberately bombing schools and hospitals...”

[US Indicts Romanian Hacker 'Guccifer'](#)

Author/Source: Al-Jazeera

“A Romanian hacker has been indicted in Virginia on charges that he posted data stolen from email and social media accounts of US celebrities and politicians...”

[US' Kerry Calls For Banishing Sexual Violence](#)

Author/Source: Al-Jazeera

“US Secretary of State John Kerry has said it was time to banish sexual violence ‘to the dark ages’ as an international conference on rape in conflict zones wrapped up in London...”

[US Says Russian Tanks, Rocket Launchers in Eastern Ukraine](#)

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Author/Source: Al-Jazeera

“The U.S. State Department said Friday it is ‘confident’ that tanks seen entering eastern



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Ukraine in recent days came from Russia, which the department said has also sent rocket launchers to pro-Moscow separatists...”

Obama Warns Of US Action against ISIL in Iraq

Author/Source: Al-Jazeera

“The US is prepared to intensify its support to Iraq to help drive out al-Qaeda-inspired fighters who have seized several cities, President Barack Obama has said...”

Freed US Soldier Bergdahl Arrives in US

Author/Source: Al-Jazeera

“Bowe Bergdahl, the army sergeant who spent five years as a Taliban captive, has arrived in the United States...”

Pentagon Says Mulling Options to Replace Russian Rocket Motors

Author/Source: Andrea Shalal, Reuters

“The U.S. Defense Department wants to end its dependency on Russian engines to power rockets that launch national security satellites, but is still exploring possible options, a top Pentagon official said on Friday...”

Settlement Reached Over Detroit Bonds - Court Mediators

13 June 2014

Author/Source: Karen Pierog, Reuters

“A settlement has been reached in Detroit's historic bankruptcy case over the treatment of unsecured limited-tax general obligation bonds, U.S. Bankruptcy Court mediators announced on Friday...”

U.S. Treasury to Discuss Funding For Iraq Militant Group

Author/Source: Anna Yukhananov, Reuters

“U.S. Treasury Secretary Jack Lew will discuss counterterrorism financing during his visit to the Middle East, including the funding network of the group fomenting an insurgency in Iraq, Treasury officials said on Friday...”

Russian Bombers Fly near California

Author/Source: Brad Lendon, CNN

“U.S. fighter jets intercepted Russian bombers off Alaska and California this month, the latest incidents in a string of recent aerial encounters over the Pacific...”